

Application number 10/752,783
Amendment dated May 31, 2005
Reply to office action mailed March 1, 2005

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of this amendment, claims 1-13 and 21-27 will be pending in this application. Claims 5, 9, and 11 have been amended. Claims 14-20 have been cancelled. New claims 21-27 have been added. Support for the new and amended claims can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 5, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Reconsideration of this rejection and allowance of the pending claims in light of these amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, and 12-13 have been allowed.

Formalities

Claims 5, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. These rejections have been obviated by amendment.

Other claims

Claim 21 should be allowed for similar reasons as claims 1 and 8. Claims 22-27 depend on claim 21 and should be allowed for the same reasons and for the additional limitations they recite.

CONCLUSION

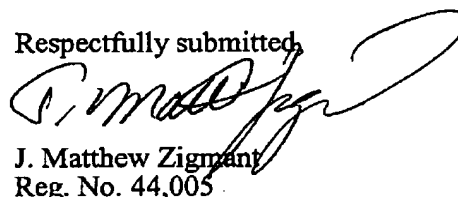
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal notice of allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-273-4782.

Respectfully submitted,



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